

**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD
REGION 5**

HERSHEY CHOCOLATE COMPANY OF
VIRGINIA, LLC

and

Cases 05-CA-290554
05-CA-291483

BAKERY, CONFECTIONERY, TOBACCO
WORKERS AND GRAIN MILLERS
INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO, CLC

HERSHEY CHOCOLATE COMPANY OF
VIRGINIA, LLC

EMPLOYER

and

Case 05-RC-289101

BAKERY, CONFECTIONERY, TOBACCO
WORKERS AND GRAIN MILLERS
INTERNATIONAL UNION, AFL-CIO, CLC

PETITIONER

**ORDER CONSOLIDATING CASES,
CONSOLIDATED COMPLAINT AND NOTICE OF HEARING**

Pursuant to Section 102.33 of the Rules and Regulations of the National Labor Relations Board (the Board) and to avoid unnecessary costs or delay, IT IS ORDERED THAT Cases 05-CA-290554 and 05-CA-291483, which are based on charges filed by Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers International Union, AFL-CIO, CLC (the Charging Party or Petitioner), against Hershey Chocolate Company of Virginia, LLC (Respondent or the Employer), and Case 05-RC-289101, in which the Employer and the Petitioner are parties, are consolidated for the purposes of hearing, ruling, and decision by an administrative law judge and that, thereafter, Case 05-RC-289101 be transferred to and continued before the Board in Washington, D.C., and that the provisions of Sections 102.46 and 102.69(e) of the Board's Rules shall govern the filing of exceptions.

This Consolidated Complaint, which is based on these charges, is issued pursuant to Section 10(b) of the National Labor Relations Act (the Act), 29 U.S.C. § 151 et seq., and Section 102.15 of the Board's Rules and Regulations, and alleges Respondent has violated the Act as described below.

1. (a) The charge in Case 05-CA-290554 was filed by the Charging Party on February 11, 2022, and a copy was served on Respondent by U.S. mail on February 15, 2022.

(b) The charge in Case 05-CA-291483 was filed by the Charging Party on March 1, 2022, and a copy was served on Respondent by U.S. mail on March 2, 2022.

(c) The first amended charge in Case 05-CA-290554 was filed by the Charging Party on March 23, 2022, and a copy was served on Respondent by U.S. mail on March 24, 2022.

(d) The second amended charge in Case 05-CA-290554 was filed by the Charging Party on May 23, 2023, and a copy was served on Respondent by U.S. mail on May 24, 2023.

2. (a) At all material times, Respondent has been a limited liability company with an office and place of business in Stuarts Draft, Virginia (Respondent's facility), and has been engaged in the manufacture, distribution, and non-retail sale of confections.

(b) In conducting its operations during the 12-month period ending June 30, 2023, Respondent sold and shipped from Respondent's facility goods valued in excess of \$50,000 directly to points located outside the Commonwealth of Virginia.

(c) At all material times, Respondent has been an employer engaged in commerce within the meaning of Section 2(2), (6), and (7) of the Act.

3. At all material times, the Charging Party has been a labor organization within the meaning of Section 2(5) of the Act.

4. (a) At all material times, the following individuals held the positions set forth opposite their respective names and have been supervisors of Respondent within the meaning of Section 2(11) of the Act and agents of Respondent within the meaning of Section 2(13) of the Act:

(i)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(ii)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(iii)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(iv)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(v)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(vi)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(vii)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

(b) At all material times, the following individuals held the positions set forth opposite their respective names and have been agents of Respondent within the meaning of Section 2(13) of the Act):

(i)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(ii)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(iii)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(iv)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)
(v)	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)	-	(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

5. About late October 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility:

(a) cornered employees while performing their job duties and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary; and

(b) interrogated its employees about their union membership, activities, and sympathies.

6. Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C):

(a) about October 13, 2021, in a tent outside Respondent's facility, convened employees on paid time and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary; and

(b) about October 15, 2021, in a tent outside Respondent's facility, convened employees on paid time and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary.

7. About the week of October 24, 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at Line 38 at Respondent's facility, cornered employees while performing their job duties and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary

8. About late October 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), in (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, by soliciting employee complaints and grievances, promised its employees increased benefits and improved terms and conditions of employment if they refrained from union-organizing activity.

9. About November 2021, Respondent increased benefits of its employees by implementing a flex time policy under which employees earn unpaid flex time for every 50 hours of overtime worked.

10. About November 7, 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), near (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, cornered employees while performing their job duties and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary.

11. About November 8, 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility:

(a) cornered employees while performing their job duties and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary;

(b) directed employees to speak to their managers about any concerns or complaints they had about Respondent; and

(c) told employees to stop spreading negativity.

12. About late November 2021, or early December 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) :

(a) interrogated its employees about their union membership, activities, and sympathies and the union membership, activities, and sympathies of other employees; and

(b) directed employees to refrain from discussing the Charging Party on Respondent's property.

13. About mid-December 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at the (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, by telling employees it knew why they liked working at the cup setting station, created an impression among its employees that their union activities were under surveillance by Respondent.

14. About mid-December 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, by telling employees that it was aware of how many union authorization cards had been signed and returned by employees, created an impression among its employees that their union activities were under surveillance by Respondent.

15. About late December 2021, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, by showing employees screenshots of their posts on a private Facebook page, created an impression among its employees that their union activities were under surveillance by Respondent.

16. About January 2022, and February 2022, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), and (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), in a conference room at Respondent's facility, convened employees on paid time and required them to listen to Respondent's captive-audience speech about the exercise of Section 7 rights without providing assurances that their attendance was voluntary.

17. About mid-January 2022, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), in a conference room at Respondent's facility, by telling employees that Respondent possessed specific information about the number of duplicative union authorization cards signed, created an impression among its employees that their union activities were under surveillance by Respondent.

18. About January 12, 2022, Respondent, by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), at (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) at Respondent's facility, coercively questioned employees about their whereabouts during their lunch break.

19. (a) About (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), 2022, Respondent suspended (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

(b) Respondent engaged in the conduct described above in paragraph 19(a) because (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) joined and assisted the Charging Party and engaged in concerted activities, and to discourage employees from engaging in these activities.

20. (a) About (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), 2022, Respondent discharged (b) (6), (b) (7)(C).

(b) Respondent engaged in the conduct described above in paragraph 20(a) because (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) joined and assisted the Charging Party and engaged in concerted activities, and to discourage employees from engaging in these activities.

21. By the conduct described above in paragraphs 5(a), 5(b), 6(a), 6(b), 7, 8, 10, 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), 12(a), 12(b), 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, and 18, Respondent has been interfering with, restraining, and coercing employees in the exercise of the rights guaranteed in Section 7 of the Act in violation of Section 8(a)(1) of the Act.

22. By the conduct described above in paragraphs 9, 19(a), 19(b), 20(a), and 20(b), Respondent has been discriminating in regard to the hire or tenure or terms or conditions of employment of its employees, thereby discouraging membership in a labor organization in violation of Section 8(a)(1) and (3) of the Act.

23. The unfair labor practices of Respondent described above affect commerce within the meaning of Section 2(6) and (7) of the Act.

REMEDY

As part of the remedy for the unfair labor practices alleged above in paragraphs 20(a), 20(b), 21, and 22, the General Counsel seeks an Order requiring Respondent to: (1) draft and send a letter to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) apologizing to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) for (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) discharge and any hardship or distress it caused, and requiring Respondent to provide a copy of this letter to the Regional Director within 14 days of distribution; (2) make whole (b) (6), (b) (7)(C), including, but not limited to, reimbursement of reasonable consequential damages (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) incurred as a result of Respondent's unlawful conduct; and (3) in the event (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) declines reinstatement to (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) former job, make (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) whole

including, but not limited to, payment of front pay for a reasonable period following any decision by (b) (6), (b) (7)(C) to decline a valid offer of reinstatement.

As part of the remedy for the unfair labor practices alleged above in paragraphs 5(a), 5(b), 6(a), 6(b), 7, 8, 9, 10, 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), 12(a), 12(b), 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19(a), 19(b), 20(a), 20(b), 21, and 22, the General Counsel seeks an Order requiring Respondent to: (1) post a copy of any Notice to Employees that may issue in this case on the television monitors it maintains throughout its facility; (2) e-mail a copy of any Notice to Employees that may issue in this case to all current and former employees who were employed by Respondent at any time since October 1, 2021; and (3) permit representatives from the National Labor Relations Board to conduct a training session for its managers and supervisors on their obligations under the National Labor Relations Act.

As part of the remedy for the unfair labor practices alleged above in paragraphs 5(a), 5(b), 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11(a), 11(b), 11(c), 12(a), 12(b), 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19(a), 19(b), 20(a), 20(b), 21, and 22, because the Employer's conduct reasonably tended to interfere with employees' freedom of choice in the election in Case 05-RC-289101, the General Counsel seeks that the election be set aside and the matter be referred to the Regional Director for the scheduling of a new election.

The General Counsel further seeks all other relief as may be just and proper to remedy the unfair labor practices alleged.

ANSWER REQUIREMENT

Respondent is notified that, pursuant to Sections 102.20 and 102.21 of the Board's Rules and Regulations, it must file an answer to the consolidated complaint. The answer must be **received by this office on or before Thursday, August 3, 2023.** Respondent also must serve a copy of the answer on each of the other parties.

The answer must be filed electronically through the Agency's website. To file electronically, go to www.nlr.gov, click on **E-File Documents**, enter the NLRB Case Number, and follow the detailed instructions. Responsibility for the receipt and usability of the answer rests exclusively upon the sender. Unless notification on the Agency's website informs users that the Agency's E-Filing system is officially determined to be in technical failure because it is unable to receive documents for a continuous period of more than 2 hours after 12:00 noon (Eastern Time) on the due date for filing, a failure to timely file the answer will not be excused on the basis that the transmission could not be accomplished because the Agency's website was off-line or unavailable for some other reason. The Board's Rules and Regulations require that an answer be signed by counsel or non-attorney representative for represented parties or by the party if not represented. See Section 102.21. If the answer being filed electronically is a pdf document containing the required signature, no paper copies of the answer need to be transmitted to the Regional Office. However, if the electronic version of an answer to a consolidated complaint is not a pdf file containing the required signature, then the E-filing rules require that such answer containing the required signature continue to be submitted to the Regional Office by traditional means within three (3) business days after the date of electronic filing. Service of the answer on each of the other parties must still be accomplished by means allowed under the Board's Rules and Regulations. The answer may not be filed by facsimile transmission. If no answer is filed, or

if an answer is filed untimely, the Board may find, pursuant to a Motion for Default Judgment, that the allegations in the consolidated complaint are true.

NOTICE OF HEARING

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE THAT on October 2, 2023, at 10:00 am at a location to be determined, and on consecutive days thereafter until concluded, a hearing will be conducted before an administrative law judge of the National Labor Relations Board. At the hearing, Respondent and any other party to this proceeding have the right to appear and present testimony regarding the allegations in this complaint. The procedures to be followed at the hearing are described in the attached Form NLRB-4668. The procedure to request a postponement of the hearing is described in the attached Form NLRB-4338.

Dated at Baltimore, Maryland this 20th day of July 2023.

(SEAL)



Sean R. Marshall, Regional Director
National Labor Relations Board, Region 5
Bank of America Center, Tower II
100 South Charles Street, Suite 600
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Attachments

Procedures in NLRB Unfair Labor Practice Hearings

The attached complaint has scheduled a hearing that will be conducted by an administrative law judge (ALJ) of the National Labor Relations Board who will be an independent, impartial finder of facts and applicable law. **You may be represented at this hearing by an attorney or other representative.** If you are not currently represented by an attorney, and wish to have one represent you at the hearing, you should make such arrangements as soon as possible. A more complete description of the hearing process and the ALJ's role may be found at Sections 102.34, 102.35, and 102.45 of the Board's Rules and Regulations. The Board's Rules and regulations are available at the following link: www.nlr.gov/sites/default/files/attachments/basic-page/node-1717/rules_and_regs_part_102.pdf.

The NLRB allows you to file certain documents electronically and you are encouraged to do so because it ensures that your government resources are used efficiently. To e-file go to the NLRB's website at www.nlr.gov, click on "e-file documents," enter the 10-digit case number on the complaint (the first number if there is more than one), and follow the prompts. You will receive a confirmation number and an e-mail notification that the documents were successfully filed.

Although this matter is set for trial, this does not mean that this matter cannot be resolved through a settlement agreement. The NLRB recognizes that adjustments or settlements consistent with the policies of the National Labor Relations Act reduce government expenditures and promote amity in labor relations and encourages the parties to engage in settlement efforts.

I. BEFORE THE HEARING

The rules pertaining to the Board's pre-hearing procedures, including rules concerning filing an answer, requesting a postponement, filing other motions, and obtaining subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and production of documents from other parties, may be found at Sections 102.20 through 102.32 of the Board's Rules and Regulations. In addition, you should be aware of the following:

- **Special Needs:** If you or any of the witnesses you wish to have testify at the hearing have special needs and require auxiliary aids to participate in the hearing, you should notify the Regional Director as soon as possible and request the necessary assistance. Assistance will be provided to persons who have handicaps falling within the provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and 29 C.F.R. 100.603.
- **Pre-hearing Conference:** One or more weeks before the hearing, the ALJ may conduct a telephonic prehearing conference with the parties. During the conference, the ALJ will explore whether the case may be settled, discuss the issues to be litigated and any logistical issues related to the hearing, and attempt to resolve or narrow outstanding issues, such as disputes relating to subpoenaed witnesses and documents. This conference is usually not recorded, but during the hearing the ALJ or the parties sometimes refer to discussions at the pre-hearing conference. You do not have to wait until the prehearing conference to meet with the other parties to discuss settling this case or any other issues.

II. DURING THE HEARING

The rules pertaining to the Board's hearing procedures are found at Sections 102.34 through 102.43 of the Board's Rules and Regulations. Please note in particular the following:

- **Witnesses and Evidence:** At the hearing, you will have the right to call, examine, and cross-examine witnesses and to introduce into the record documents and other evidence.
- **Exhibits:** Each exhibit offered in evidence must be provided in duplicate to the court reporter and a copy of each of each exhibit should be supplied to the ALJ and each party when the exhibit is offered in

evidence. If a copy of any exhibit is not available when the original is received, it will be the responsibility of the party offering such exhibit to submit the copy to the ALJ before the close of hearing. If a copy is not submitted, and the filing has not been waived by the ALJ, any ruling receiving the exhibit may be rescinded and the exhibit rejected.

- **Transcripts:** An official court reporter will make the only official transcript of the proceedings, and all citations in briefs and arguments must refer to the official record. The Board will not certify any transcript other than the official transcript for use in any court litigation. Proposed corrections of the transcript should be submitted, either by way of stipulation or motion, to the ALJ for approval. Everything said at the hearing while the hearing is in session will be recorded by the official reporter unless the ALJ specifically directs off-the-record discussion. If any party wishes to make off-the-record statements, a request to go off the record should be directed to the ALJ.

- **Oral Argument:** You are entitled, on request, to a reasonable period of time at the close of the hearing for oral argument, which shall be included in the transcript of the hearing. Alternatively, the ALJ may ask for oral argument if, at the close of the hearing, if it is believed that such argument would be beneficial to the understanding of the contentions of the parties and the factual issues involved.

- **Date for Filing Post-Hearing Brief:** Before the hearing closes, you may request to file a written brief or proposed findings and conclusions, or both, with the ALJ. The ALJ has the discretion to grant this request and to will set a deadline for filing, up to 35 days.

III. AFTER THE HEARING

The Rules pertaining to filing post-hearing briefs and the procedures after the ALJ issues a decision are found at Sections 102.42 through 102.48 of the Board's Rules and Regulations. Please note in particular the following:

- **Extension of Time for Filing Brief with the ALJ:** If you need an extension of time to file a post-hearing brief, you must follow Section 102.42 of the Board's Rules and Regulations, which requires you to file a request with the appropriate chief or associate chief administrative law judge, depending on where the trial occurred. You must immediately serve a copy of any request for an extension of time on all other parties and furnish proof of that service with your request. You are encouraged to seek the agreement of the other parties and state their positions in your request.

- **ALJ's Decision:** In due course, the ALJ will prepare and file with the Board a decision in this matter. Upon receipt of this decision, the Board will enter an order transferring the case to the Board and specifying when exceptions are due to the ALJ's decision. The Board will serve copies of that order and the ALJ's decision on all parties.

- **Exceptions to the ALJ's Decision:** The procedure to be followed with respect to appealing all or any part of the ALJ's decision (by filing exceptions with the Board), submitting briefs, requests for oral argument before the Board, and related matters is set forth in the Board's Rules and Regulations, particularly in Section 102.46 and following sections. A summary of the more pertinent of these provisions will be provided to the parties with the order transferring the matter to the Board.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS BOARD

Cases 05-CA-290554, 05-CA-291483 and 05-RC-289101

The issuance of the notice of formal hearing in this case does not mean that the matter cannot be disposed of by agreement of the parties. On the contrary, it is the policy of this office to encourage voluntary adjustments. The examiner or attorney assigned to the case will be pleased to receive and to act promptly upon your suggestions or comments to this end.

An agreement between the parties, approved by the Regional Director, would serve to cancel the hearing. However, unless otherwise specifically ordered, the hearing will be held at the date, hour, and place indicated. Postponements **will not be granted** unless good and sufficient grounds are shown **and** the following requirements are met:

- (1) The request must be in writing. An original and two copies must be filed with the Regional Director when appropriate under 29 CFR 102.16(a) or with the Division of Judges when appropriate under 29 CFR 102.16(b).
- (2) Grounds must be set forth in **detail**;
- (3) Alternative dates for any rescheduled hearing must be given;
- (4) The positions of all other parties must be ascertained in advance by the requesting party and set forth in the request; and
- (5) Copies must be simultaneously served on all other parties (listed below), and that fact must be noted on the request.

Except under the most extreme conditions, no request for postponement will be granted during the three days immediately preceding the date of hearing.

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